pithead prices, apart from increases in the rates of Royalty, Railway freight etc.; strategies to overcome low productivity, high production costs, delays in sales realisation, accumulated losses and lack of consumer satisfaction; study of the need for restructuring the coal industry including issues relating to greater autonomy, removal of existing price and other controls, disbanding cross-subsidisation through CPRA and exposing the entire organisation to market-based competition;

(c) Regulatory measures necessary for promoting appropriate mining practices, for adoption of necessary environment management measures and for safeguarding consumer interests.

Quantity of Foodgrains Damaged in the Country

1389. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantity of foodgrains demaged due to flood and heavy rains in 1995 (till date) for being stored in the open and the estimate of loss, State-wise;

(b) the details of proposals to construct more godowns State-wise and other proposals to store the foodgrains properly; and

(c) the target date for completion of storage project?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The quantity of foodgrains stored in the open which have been reported so far as damaged in different States during 1995 due to natural causes such as unprecedented rains, floods and cyclones is as follows:

State	(in MTs)
1. Punjab	138.00
2. Rajasthan	539.00
3. Haryana	60.00
4. Andhra Pradesh	218.00
5. Kerala	30.16
6. Maharashtra	255.00
7. Madhya Pradesh	18.85
8. Gujarat	200.00
9. Karnataka	3.54
	1462.55

Foodgrains affected due to rains, floods and cyclones are salvaged and quantity recovered as damaged is disposed off as "not fit for human consumption" as per procedure in vogue. The estimated loss will be known only after disposal of the damaged foodgrains.

(b) and (c) Food Corporation of India has proposed to construct an additional capacity of 1.43 lakh tonnes during 1995-96 at the following States:—

State	(capacity in MTs)
1. Karnataka	10,000
2. Himachal Pradesh	1,670
3. N.E.F.	10,840
4. Madhya Pradesh	10,000
5. Andhra Pradesh	40,000
6. Punjab	50,870
7. Uttar Pradesh	20,000
Total	1,43,380

The targetted capacity of 1.43 lakh tonnes are expected to be completed during 1995-96.

The details of the main steps taken by Food Corporation of India to prevent damage in foodgrains during storage are given in the Statement.

Statement

Steps taken by Food Corporation of India to prevent damage in foodgrains during storage

The foodgrains stock is held in the covered capacity to the extent possible. The remaining foodgrains stock, which cannot be accommodated in covered godowns is held under cover-and-plinth (CAP) arrangement. Following steps have been taken by the Food

Corporation of India to protect the stocks under cover-and-plinth (CAP) arrangement:—

(i) Stocks are stored in CAP storage with proper drainage and dunnage arrangement;

(ii) The stocks are covered with polythene covers and lashed with nylon ropes;

(iii) Aeration of stocks in the open is undertaken during clear weather to maintain the health of grains; and

(iv) Periodic inspection is undertaken to control insect infestation, damage by rodents, birds etc.

The Food Corporation of India takes several measures to ensure preservation and health of the foodgrains, from the procurement of the foodgrains to the distribution stage, as indicated below:—

(i) Foodgrains stocks are procured according to the quality specifications prescribed for the purpose;

(ii) The regulated markets in the country provide facilities for cleaning, bagging and fumigation and therefore, wherever the foodgrains stock is not found to be conforming to the specifications, it is cleaned/upgraded so as to bring it within the specifications prior to purchases;

(iii) Samples of foodgrains stocks are sent to the Laboratory for analysis to cross check the quality;

(iv) Foodgrains stocks in storage are subjected to regular inspection periodically;

(v) Stock in storage are given prophylactic and the curative treatment, wherever necessary. Under the prophylactic treatment, stock are sprayed with insecticides on the bag surfaces, walls and alleways between stacks and stacks and walls. Foodgrains are not allowed to come in contact with the insecticides directly to prevent contamination. Under the curative treatment, the infested stocks are subjected to fumigation. Steps are also taken to control rodent and bird infestation by installation of birds scarers, trappings and through use of rodenticides. All stocks are required to be sprayed periodically and infested stocks are fully fumigated frequently;

(vi) During rail/road movement from Food Corporation of India's depots care is taken to clear and disinfest wagons, before stocks are loaded; and

(vii) Stocks are again examined at the time of issue of prior to their delivery for public distribution to ensure that these conform to the specifications. Bags which do not conform to the prescribed standard are segregated and upgraded before issue.

Ban on Import of Indian drugs by UAE

1390. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether UAE has banned the import of Indian drugs unless these are registered with EIC countries, U.S. or Japan;

(b) whether Government have taken up the matter with UAE and requested the latter to lift the ban; if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) In January, 1994 the UAE Government made effective their registration criteria for import of drugs and pharmaceuticals, applicable uniformly for supplies from all countries. These criteria include certain provisions requiring registration in developed countries.

(b) and (c) The Government are actively pursuing the matter with the UAE authorities with a view to